

CLAIMS

We claim:

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1. A computer assisted method for analyzing information from a data source, comprising:
selecting one or more data sources;
linking said selected source to an operator for analyzing information;
detecting whether said data source is a data stream or a database; and
evaluating said operator against a database when said data source includes one or more databases and evaluating a data unit against said operator when said data source includes one or more data streams.

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2. A method, as in claim 1, further comprising:
linking a plurality of operators together in a network wherein said network analyzes information from said data source.

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3. A method as in claim 2, further comprising:
compiling said network by combining one or more operators into a single composite operator when said data source includes one or more data streams; and
compiling said network by assigning a document identifier to one or more operators, combining said operators having a document identifier into an operator database and inverting that operator database when said data source includes one or more databases.

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4. A method as in claim 3, wherein:
each operator receives a listing of data context identifiers having one or more corresponding document features.

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5. A method as in claim 4, wherein:
said document features are chosen from a group consisting of terms, extracted entities, term relations, term counts, term distribution, discourse markers, feature distribution, reference data deriving from said data source.
6. A method as in claim 1, wherein said data source contains at least one of the group consisting of a text file, audio file, video file, graphic file, and picture file.
7. A method as in claim 6, wherein:
data from said data source is transmitted over a network to a computer which evaluates said data.
8. A method as in claim 7, wherein said network comprises the Internet.
9. A computer assisted method for analyzing information from a data source, comprising:
selecting one or more data sources;
selecting one or more operators for analyzing information;
linking a plurality of operators together in a network;
creating a visual representation of said network;
linking said network to said data source in said visual representation; and
compiling said network and evaluating said data source using said network when said network is visually linked to said data source.
10. A method as in claim 9, further comprising:
compiling said network by combining one or more operators into a single composite operator when said data source includes one or more data streams; and

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compiling said network by assigning a document identifier to one or more operators, combining said operators having a document identifier into an operator database and inverting that operator database when said data source includes one or more databases.

11. A method as in claim 10, wherein:

each operator receives a listing of data context identifiers having one or more corresponding document features.

12. A method as in claim 11, wherein:

said document features are chosen from a group consisting of terms, extracted entities, term relations, term counts, term distribution, discourse markers, feature distribution, reference data deriving from said data source.

13. A method as in claim 12, wherein said data source contains at least one of the group consisting of a text file, audio file, video file, graphic file, and picture file.

14. A method as in claim 13, wherein:

data from said data source is transmitted over a network to a computer which evaluates said data.

15. A method as in claim 14, wherein said network comprises the Internet.

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16. A method as in claim 9, further comprising:

creating an output indicator at each node of said network; said output indicator visually represents a quantified input and a quantified output of said operator.

17. A method as in claim 16, wherein:

said output indicator displays the number of input documents and the number of output documents for each node of said network.

18. A method as in claim 17 wherein said display comprises a pie chart.
19. A method as in claim 17 wherein said display comprises a bar chart.
20. A method as in claim 17 wherein said display comprises a term map.
21. A method as in claim 9, further comprising:
creating an output indicator, said output indicator representing a response
function initiated by one of said operators.
22. A method for automatically responding to information received from a
data stream, comprising:
selecting a plurality of operators for detecting whether information
satisfies a desired constraint;
linking said operators together in a network;
creating a visual representation of said network;
linking said data stream to said network in said visual representation;
evaluating said received information against said network; and
automatically generating a programmed response when a constraint from
at least one network operator is satisfied.
23. A method, as in claim 22, wherein said programmed response comprises
generating an email message.
24. A method, as in claim 22, wherein said programmed response comprises
generating a telephone voice message.

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25. A method, as in claim 22, wherein said programmed response comprises generating a text message.
26. A method, as in claim 22, further comprising:
creating an output indicator, said indicator representing a response function initiated by one of said operators.
27. A method, as in claim 26, wherein said output indicator represents an email message.
28. A method, as in claim 26, wherein said output indicator represents a telephone voice message.
29. A method, as in claim 26, wherein said output indicator represents a text message.
30. A method, as in claim 26, further comprising:
transmitting said output indicator over a computer network.
31. A method, as in claim 27, further comprising:
transmitting said output indicator over a computer network.
32. A method, as in claim 28, further comprising:
transmitting said output indicator over a computer network.
33. A method, as in claim 29, further comprising:
transmitting said output indicator over a computer network.

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